

Directions: Read each question carefully and select the *best* answer.

Use the excerpt and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 1.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. That to preserve these Rights Governments are instituted among men . . . That whenever any form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and institute new Government. . .

Declaration of Independence, 1776

1 Which of the following statements *best* expresses the meaning of the quote?

- A The basic rights of the people are jobs and property.
- B No government should rule a place located outside of its borders.
- C Governments have the power to take away the rights of citizens who criticize it.
- D A government that does not protect the rights of its people should lose the right to rule.

2 Which of the following is the *best* explanation of the principle of popular sovereignty?

- A Governments get their power from the people.
- B Representation should be based on population.
- C Certain powers are denied to all levels of government.
- D Power is divided between the national and state governments.

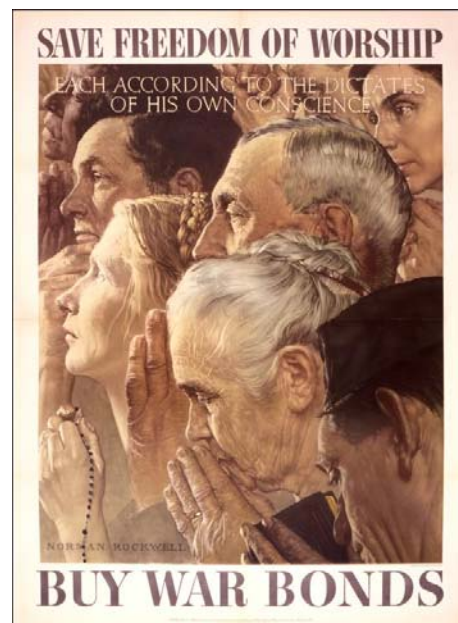
3 The *Constitution of the United States* is called a “living document” because it —

- A can be changed by the Supreme Court
- B contains procedures for being changed
- C grants voting rights to all citizens
- D divides power among the three branches

4 Which of the following is the *best* definition of a public good?

- A Buildings owned by the government
- B Government programs such as Social Security
- C A service which the government provides for everyone
- D Property the government has acquired through eminent domain

Use the poster and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 5.



5 The freedom that is illustrated in the poster is protected by the —

- A *Articles of Confederation*
- B *Declaration of Independence*
- C *Bill of Rights*
- D Pledge of Allegiance

6 Which of the following can *only* be carried out by the national (federal) government?

- A Print money
- B Run public schools
- C Remove state governors from office
- D Choose members of city councils

Use the excerpt in the box and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 7.

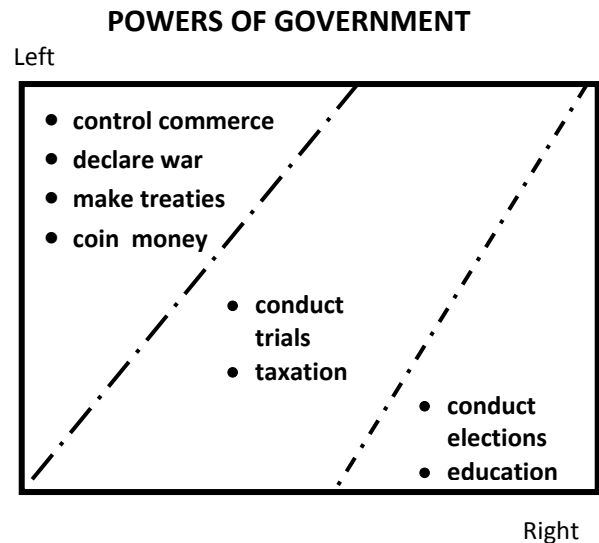
The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

Amendment X, *Constitution of the United States*

7 Which of the following statements *best* identifies the main idea of the Tenth Amendment?

- A All powers of government are listed in the Constitution.
- B The Constitution grants specific powers to the people.
- C The states have more power than the national government.
- D Powers not given to the national government are held by the states.

Use the information in the diagram and your knowledge of social studies to answer questions 8 and 9.



8 The powers in the center of the diagram are known as —

- A concurrent powers
- B delegated powers
- C reserved powers
- D expressed powers

9 The powers listed on the left side of the diagram are given to the —

- A local governments
- B state governments
- C national government
- D state and national governments

Use the chart and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 10.

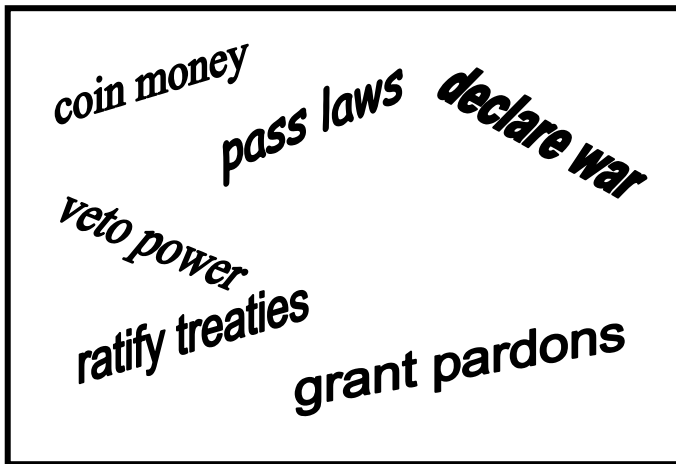
Legislative	Executive	Judicial
Congress / \ House of Senate Representatives	President and Vice President	Supreme Court Federal Courts

10 Which principle of government is illustrated in the chart above?

- A Federalism
- B Popular sovereignty
- C Checks and balances
- D Separation of powers

Use the graphic and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 11.

TITLE: Powers of the ?



11 The *best* title for the graphic above would be "Powers of the —"

- A Legislative Branch
- B Executive Branch
- C Legislative and Executive Branches
- D Executive and Judicial Branches

Use the chart and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 12.

CITIZENSHIP		
Rights	Duties	Responsibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> freedom of speech freedom of press freedom of religion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> obey laws pay taxes serve on a jury 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> participate in your community be informed and vote

12 Which of the following items would be *correctly* placed in the Duties column?

- A Registering to vote
- B Serving as a witness in court
- C Campaigning for a candidate
- D Writing a letter to a Congressman

Use the excerpt and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 13 and 14.

In your town, some of the citizens want to remove certain books from the public library because they think the books contain material that is harmful for children to read. Other citizens in the town want to keep the books in the library.

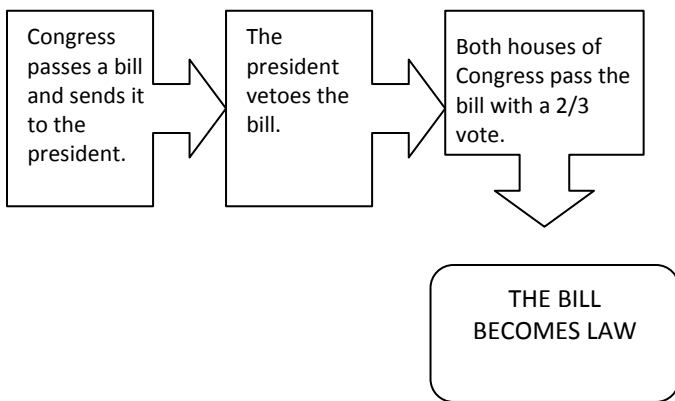
13 Which of the following is the *most* democratic and effective way to address the book issue?

- A Put the books on the higher shelves of the library so only the adults can reach them.
- B Have the library staff decide which books to keep and which books to eliminate.
- C Start a petition to the mayor to remove the books from the library.
- D Make the people who want to keep the books pay a special fee to keep them separate from the other books.

14 What argument could be used to defend the opinion that the books should be kept in the library?

- A Democracy depends on the free expression of many different opinions.
- B Democracy depends on allowing communities to vote on what can be read.
- C Democracy depends on the smartest people deciding what books should be read.
- D Democracy depends on limiting access to books.

Use the diagram and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 15.



15 Which constitutional principle is *best* shown by the steps listed in the diagram above?

- A Individual rights
- B Checks and balances
- C Popular sovereignty
- D Limited government

16 In the area of United States foreign policy, Congress shares power with the —

- A President
- B Supreme Court
- C state governments
- D United Nations

17 The President's nomination of a person to become a Supreme Court justice *best* illustrates the principle of —

- A judicial review
- B rule of law
- C popular sovereignty
- D checks and balances

Use the excerpt in the box below and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 18.

I. That all men are by nature equally free and independent, and have certain inherent rights. . . .

II. That all power is vested in, and consequently derived from, the people . . .

III. That government is, or ought to be, instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the people, nation or community.

V. That the legislative and executive powers of the state should be . . . distinct from the judicative;

Virginia Declaration of Rights, 1776

18 Which part of the *Virginia Declaration of Rights* *best* illustrates the principle of separation of powers?

- A Part I
- B Part II
- C Part III
- D Part V

19 Which of the following states a weakness of the *Articles of Confederation*?

- A Congress could not tax.
- B Congress could not make treaties.
- C Congress could not admit new states.
- D Congress could not establish a post office.

20 What is the name given to the first ten amendments to the *Constitution of the United States*?

- A Declaration of Freedoms
- B Great Compromise
- C Preamble
- D Bill of Rights

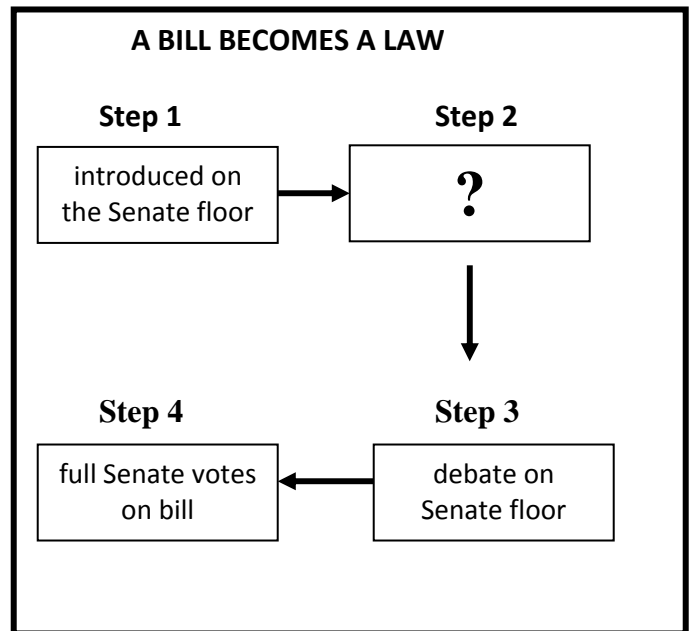
21 Which of the following documents describes the powers of the President of the United States?

- A The *Mayflower Compact*
- B The *Constitution of the United States*
- C The *Declaration of Independence*
- D The *Articles of Confederation*

22 The constitutional safeguard that prevents one branch of government from dominating the others is called—

- A concurrent powers
- B checks and balances
- C federalism
- D separation of powers

Use the diagram below and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 23.



23 Which of the following would *best* complete step 2?

- A Interest groups assist in the writing of the bill.
- B The President signs the bill into law.
- C The bill is sent to the House.
- D The bill is assigned to committee.

Use the table below and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 24.

CONGRESS		
	SENATE	HOUSE
1	100	435
2	Vice President	Speaker of the House
3	6 years	2 years
4	appropriate money	ratify treaties

24 The table above contains an error in one of the lines. Which of the lines contains the error?

- A Line 1
- B Line 2
- C Line 3
- D Line 4

Use the information in the box below and your knowledge of social studies to answer questions 25 and 26.

Social Security Rules Change

In 1993 Congress passed a law that would gradually change the age to receive Social Security retirement benefits from 65 to 67. As many older individuals in the workforce saw their ability to retire with full benefits slip further away, they felt that the government had broken a promise. The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) has vowed revenge in the next election.

- 25 The statement “vowed revenge in the next election” refers to the next —
- A gubernatorial election
 - B mayoral election
 - C Congressional election
 - D Presidential election
- 26 The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) is an example of —
- A a public service organization
 - B an interest group
 - C a Congressional Subcommittee
 - D a Political Action Committee (PAC)

Use the excerpt and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 27.

Over recent years, the National Rifle Association (NRA) has played an important role in politics. It has a large number of members, whose voting strength tends to impress legislators. It holds regular meetings with members of Congress and federal bureaucrats. It gives campaign contributions to candidates who oppose gun control.

- 27 The meetings with legislators and bureaucrats described in the excerpt illustrate the process of —
- A lobbying
 - B vetoing
 - C filibustering
 - D gerrymandering

Use the chart below and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 28.

DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT	
1	suggests legislation, prepares the federal budget, signs or vetoes bills
2	makes treaties with foreign governments
3	sends US troops on peacekeeping missions
4	appoints federal officials and judges
5	declares disasters areas, declares places eligible for federal emergency funds
6	delivers the State of the Union Address
7	grants pardons and reprieves

- 28 Which of the following pairs of items in the chart requires the consent of the Senate?
- A 1 and 2
 - B 2 and 4
 - C 3 and 6
 - D 5 and 7

29 When the president grants a pardon, he is checking the power of —

- A Congress to make laws
- B the judicial branch to convict criminals
- C the Supreme Court to declare laws unconstitutional
- D the executive branch to veto bills

Use the cartoon and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 30.



Source: Civics Test, NAEP

30 According to the cartoon which statement *best* describes the change brought about by the use of the Fourteenth Amendment?

- A State governments were unable to respond to the needs of citizens
- B Big government could restrict the rights of the people
- C Federal powers were given to the states
- D State governments must also follow the *Bill of Rights*

31 The number of electoral votes for each state is based on the —

- A size of the state
- B number of adult voters
- C size and population of the state
- D number of Senators and Representatives of the state

Use the information and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 32.

1960 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION				
Candidate	Electoral Votes	States Won*	% of Vote	Popular Vote
John Kennedy	303	23	49%	34,220,984
Richard Nixon	219	26	49%	34,108,157
2000 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION				
Candidate	Electoral Votes	States Won*	% of Vote	Popular Vote
George W. Bush	271	30	48%	50,456,169
Al Gore	266	21	48%	50,996,116

* includes the electoral votes of the District of Columbia
boldfaced names indicate winner of the election

32 Which of the statements is supported by the information in the chart?

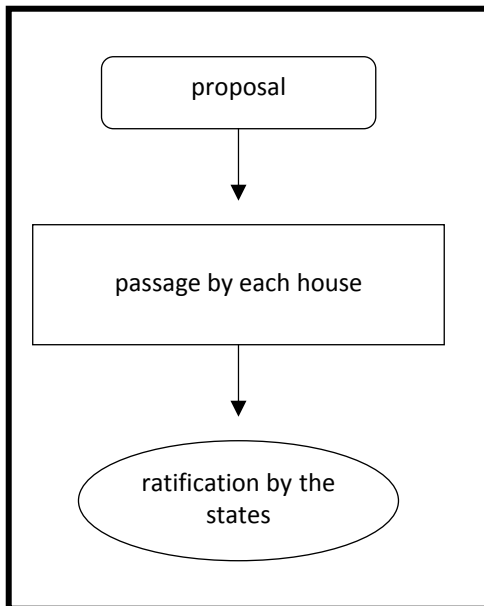
- A If the percentage of votes is the same, the election is decided by the House of Representatives.
- B The candidate that wins a majority of the electoral votes will become president.
- C The candidate who wins the most states will become president.
- D The winner of the popular vote is always the winner of the presidential election.

33 Who selects the president if no single candidate wins in the Electoral College?

- A Senate
- B State legislatures
- C Supreme Court
- D House of Representatives

Use the diagram below and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 34.

TITLE: _____



34 The best title for the diagram above would be

- A The Legislative Process
- B Steps for Amending the Constitution
- C Passage of a Local Ordinance
- D Responsibilities of the Legislative Branch

35 The judicial branch *may limit* the power of the executive branch by —

- A overriding a veto
- B refusing to approve an appointment
- C granting a pardon
- D ruling an action unconstitutional

Use the information in the box below and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 36.

D.C. Statehood

We, the undersigned, request that the nonfederal lands of Washington, D.C., become the 51st state. We protest restrictions on the enfranchisement of residents of the District of Columbia. We strongly urge full voting rights be given to citizens who are entitled to representation by two seats in the Senate and at least one seat in the House.

James Washington Martha Monroe
George Madison Dolley Jefferson

36 Which of the First Amendment guarantees are the people who signed the document exercising?

- A freedom of press
- B freedom of speech
- C right of petition
- D free exercise of religion

Use the excerpt and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 37.

On May 17, 1954, in *Brown v. Board of Education*, the Supreme Court ruled that laws mandating racially segregated public school systems were unconstitutional.

In 1957, Governor Orval Faubus of Arkansas called on the National Guard to turn away nine African American students as they attempted to enter Central High School in Little Rock. President Eisenhower, who did not personally support the Brown decision called out federal troops to protect the rights of the African American students to attend the school.

37 President Eisenhower called out federal troops because he —

- A had a long career in the military
- B believed that the governor needed his assistance
- C was required by the Constitution to enforce the rule of the law
- D wanted to show that the federal government would protect the rights of protesters

Use the headline below and your knowledge of social studies to answer question 38.

**Supreme Court approves
Virginia claim to Potomac
River water**

38 The case described was decided by the Supreme Court because it involved a —

- A federal law
- B federal regulation
- C constitutional issue
- D dispute between states

39 The *Bill of Rights* was added to the *Constitution of the United States* in 1791 in order to —

- A protect the people from the power of the government
- B prevent the government from being overthrown
- C control the power of the president
- D provide the courts with a list of rules

40 Citizenship is defined by the —

- A *Declaration on Independence*
- B *Virginia Declaration of Rights*
- C First Amendment
- D Fourteenth Amendment